





# Geography (GEOG) 302

**The Canadian North** (Revision 5)

**Status:**

Replaced with new revision, see the [course listing](#)  for the current revision 

**Delivery mode:**

Individualized study online 

**Credits:**

3

**Areas of study:**

Arts or Social Science

**Prerequisites:**

None

**Precluded:**

None

**Challenge:**

GEOG 302 has a challenge for credit option.

**Faculty:**

[Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences](#) 

## Overview

*GEOG 302* is a senior-level undergraduate, three-credit course in human geography. It is suitable for students who are interested in the geography, culture, and sustainable development of Canada's North. It presents an overview of the human geography of the Canadian North covering diverse topics such as imaginings of the North; the biophysical features of Canada's North; the history of European exploration and contact with indigenous northern populations; Aboriginal culture and society; political developments in the North; and natural resource developments in this region and their environmental impacts. There are no prerequisites for this course, but because it is a senior undergraduate course, there is an expectation that students will have good skills in critical social analysis, cultural analysis, and writing. As well, while not required, some exposure to geographical analysis and concepts will benefit students.

## Outline

- Unit 1: Imaginations and Definitions of the North
- Unit 2: The Northern Climate and the Physical Base of the North—Physical Geography
- Unit 3: Northern Biogeography
- Unit 4: Northern Historical Geography
- Unit 5: Social Geography: Settlement, Aboriginal Culture, and Contemporary Northern Society
- Unit 6: The Northern Economy: Renewable and Non-Renewable Resource Development
- Unit 7: The Environmental Impacts of Industrial Development in the North
- Unit 8: Political Geography: Territorial Politics, Geopolitics, and Circumpolar Initiatives
- Unit 9: The Future of the North: More of the Same or on the Road to Sustainability?

## Evaluation


To **receive credit**  for *GEOG 302*, you must achieve a grade of at least 50

percent on the final examination and achieve a course composite grade of at least **D (50 percent)** [↗](#). The weighting of the composite grade is as follows:


<b>Activity</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Assignment 1: Mapping the North	10%
Assignment 2: Case Study—Northern Biogeography	10%
Approval for Assignment 3: Northern Region and Topic for In-Depth Analysis	Approved/Not Approved
Assignment 3a: Elaborating on Chosen Region	5%
Assignment 3b: Indigenous Culture	5%
Assignment 3c: Northern Economic Development	5%
Assignment 3d: Northern Sustainability	5%
Approval for Assignment 4: Annotated Bibliography	Approved/Not Approved
Assignment 4: Major Research Paper	25%
Final Examination	35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

The **final examination** for this course must be requested in advance and written under the supervision of an AU-approved exam invigilator. Invigilators include either ProctorU or an approved in-person invigilation centre that can accommodate online exams. Students are responsible for payment of any invigilation fees. Information on exam request deadlines, invigilators, and other exam-related questions, can be found at the [Exams and grades](#) [↗](#)

section of the Calendar.

To learn more about assignments and examinations, please refer to Athabasca University's [online Calendar](#) .

## Materials

Bone, Robert M. *The Canadian North: Issues and Challenges*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press, 2016.  (Print)

## Other Materials

All other materials are online, including study guides, and electronic readings and videos.



## Challenge for credit

### Overview

The challenge for credit process allows you to demonstrate that you have acquired a command of the general subject matter, knowledge, intellectual and/or other skills that would normally be found in a university-level course.

Full information about [challenge for credit](#)  can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

### Evaluation

To **receive credit**  for the *GEOG 302* challenge registration, you must achieve an overall course grade of **D (50 percent)**  or greater to pass.

Activity	Weight
Assignment	50%
Exam	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>



## Challenge for credit course registration form

### Important links

- › [Academic advising](#)
- › [Program planning](#)
- › [Request assistance](#)
- › [Support services](#)

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

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*Updated June 13, 2024*

View [previous revision](#)

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